

Rights Action
March 2, 2013

MAYAN QEQCHI PLAINTIFFS ~ versus ~ HUSBAY MINERALS
Angelica Choc (widow of Adolfo Ich who was killed September 27, 2009 by security guards working for Hudbay Mineral's nickel mining subsidiary in Guatemala) is in Toronto to attend the trial, March 4-5

"After repeatedly assuring the Canadian public that it respects human rights at its mine in Guatemala, Hudbay Minerals is now hiding behind its corporate structure to deny any possible responsibility. If these rapes and shootings happened at Hudbay's mine in Flin Flon, Manitoba, I can't imagine that Hudbay would say it simply wasn't head office's problem. Canadians would never stand for it. And they shouldn't stand for it here."
(Murray Klippenstein)

BELOW

- Press Release from Klippensteins law firm
- Public event in Toronto, March 5th
- How to support this work for justice and remedy

FOR INTERVIEWS WITH ANGELICA CHOC & MORE INFORMATION

Grahame Russell, Rights Action
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~ Press Release from Klippensteins law firm ~

MAYAN PLAINTIFFS HEAD TO COURT FOR FIRST HEARING AFTER HUSBAY CONCEDES THAT LAWSUITS REGARDING ALLEGED RAPES AND MURDER AT ITS FORMER MINING PROJECT IN GUATEMALA CAN BE HEARD IN ONTARIO

Toronto, Ontario - On March 4 and 5, 2013 an Ontario court judge will hear arguments regarding the preliminary legal issue of whether a Canadian mining company's head office can be held legally accountable for human rights abuse committed at its subsidiary's on-the-ground operations.

This is the first court hearing in the cases after Hudbay abruptly dropped its argument that the lawsuits should be heard in Guatemala. Angelica Choc, the widow of murdered community leader Adolfo Ich Choc, has traveled from Guatemala to attend in person.

Hudbay continues to deny all responsibility for the rapes and shootings allegedly committed at its former mining project. In this hearing, Hudbay is arguing that its head office simply does not owe a "duty of care" to Mayan families and subsistence farming communities harmed by its mining operations. "After repeatedly assuring the Canadian public that it respects human rights at its mine in Guatemala, Hudbay is now hiding behind its corporate structure to deny any possible responsibility" said Murray Klippenstein, lawyer for the Mayan Plaintiffs. "If these rapes and shootings happened at Hudbay's mine in Flin Flon, Manitoba, I can't imagine that Hudbay would say it simply wasn't head office's problem. Canadians would never stand for it. And they shouldn't stand for it here."

Amnesty International Canada has been granted intervener status as a “friend of the court” and will be arguing that Canadian companies are under an obligation to respect human rights wherever they operate, particularly where the business is operating in a conflict-affected or high risk area, and where the Indigenous peoples’ lives and livelihoods are at risk. [See Amnesty International’s public statement.](#)

The hearing will be heard by the Superior Court of Justice in a courtroom in downtown Toronto on March 4 and 5, 2013. A decision on these issues will be released in the following weeks.

For more information: www.chocversushudbay.com.

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~ Public event in Toronto, March 5th ~

CANADIAN MINING ON TRIAL
Precedent-setting trials continue against Hudbay Minerals nickel mining company for harms and violations against Mayan-Qeqchi people in Guatemala

DATE: Tuesday, March 5, 7pm

WHERE: OISE # 2214, Ontario Institute for Studies in Education, University of Toronto, 252 Bloor Street West, Toronto

WHO: Angelica Choc, widow of Adolfo Ich (killed September 27, 2009 by security guards working for Hudbay Mineral’s nickel mining subsidiary in Guatemala); Klippensteins law firm; Rights Action; Protest Barrick / Mining Injustice Solidarity Network; Council of Canadians; Mining Watch.

~ How to support this work for justice and remedy ~

Rights Action is honored to support and work with the nickel-mining harmed communities of eastern Guatemala since 2004, including their efforts to seek justice and remedy in Canadian courts in their three cases against Hudbay Minerals. Thank-you to all who have donated funds and otherwise supported their struggle for justice and remedy.

PLEASE HELP FUND THIS STRUGGLE FOR JUSTICE AND REMEDY

> DONATIONS ARE TAX-DEDUCTIBLE IN CANADA AND THE USA
> Full Proposal and Budget Available on Request

To support the work of the Mayan Qeqchi Territorial Defense Committee, make check payable to "Rights Action" and mail to:

- UNITED STATES: Box 50887, Washington DC, 20091-0887
- CANADA: (Box 552) 351 Queen St. E, Toronto ON, M5A-1T8

CREDIT-CARD DONATIONS can be made (in Canada and U.S.): <http://www.rightsaction.org/tax-deductible-donations>

- be a monthly credit card donor (Canada and U.S.)
- to donate stock, contact: info@rightsaction.org

MORE INFORMATION:

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